AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicants respectfully request that claim 38 be cancelled.

Claims 1-30 (cancelled).

Claim 31 (currently amended): A method of identifying an organic or an inorganic molecule that binds specifically to [[a]] **MN's cell adhesion** site ~~on a MN protein or a MN polypeptide~~, to which site vertebrate cells adhere in a cell adhesion assay, **wherein said site is within MN's proteoglycan-like domain, the amino acid sequence of MN's proteoglycan-like domain being that of SEQ ID NO: 50, and wherein said site's amino acid sequence consists of an amino acid sequence from said SEQ ID NO: 50, wherein said site's amino acid sequence comprises an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOS: 10 and 98-103, said method** comprising testing an organic or an inorganic molecule in a cell adhesion assay, **wherein said cell adhesion assay comprises** ~~comprising~~:

(a) allowing ~~said~~ MN protein**, which comprises said site, and/or** ~~or said~~ MN polypeptide**, which comprises said site,** to bind to a substrate, to which substrate vertebrate cells do not bind;

(b) rinsing unbound MN protein or unbound MN polypeptide from said substrate;

(c) incubating the bound MN protein or the bound MN polypeptide with said organic or inorganic molecule, and with said vertebrate cells;

(d) rinsing unbound vertebrate cells from said bound MN protein or bound MN polypeptide; and

(e) identifying whether said organic or said inorganic molecule inhibits the adhesion of said vertebrate cells to said MN protein or to said MN polypeptide by specifically binding to said site;

wherein said MN protein or said MN polypeptide is specifically bound by the M75 monoclonal antibody that is secreted from the hybridoma VU-M75, which was deposited at the American Type Culture Collection under ATCC No. HB 11128, and is encoded by a nucleic acid whose nucleotide sequence is selected from the group consisting of:

(i) SEQ ID NO: 1;

(ii) nucleotide sequences that hybridize specifically under stringent hybridization conditions of 0.02 M to 0.15 M NaCl at temperatures of 50°C to 70°C to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 1; and

(iii) nucleotide sequences that differ from SEQ ID NO: 1 or from the nucleotide sequences of (ii) in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein said molecule is organic.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein said molecule is inorganic.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The method of Claim 32 wherein said molecule is a protein or a polypeptide.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The method of Claim 34 wherein said protein or polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 137 and 138.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The method of Claim 34 wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 137 and 138.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein said organic or inorganic molecule, when in contact

with a vertebrate preneoplastic or neoplastic cell that abnormally expresses MN protein, inhibits the growth of said cell.

Claim 38 (cancelled).

Claim 39 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31 wherein ~~the site on the MN protein or the~~ said MN polypeptide ~~comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SQ ID NOS: 10 and 97~~ **is SEQ ID NO:** 106.

Claim 40 (cancelled).

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein said vertebrate cells are mammalian cells.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein said vertebrate cells are human cells.

Claims 43 and 44 (cancelled).